

# Melbourne Parish Council

Mrs J Storer - Parish Clerk, 2 Mansfields Croft, Etwall, Derbyshire DE65 6NJ



## Highway Committee

Minutes of a meeting of the Highways Committee held at 8.15pm Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at the Shone Room, Melbourne

Present – Cllr Earp (Chairman), Carroll, Smith, Stockill,  
In attendance: Clerk, Cllr Collyer, Cllr Hudson, Cllr Sharp

40. Apologies: No apologies were received
42. Minutes of the previous Highways Committee meeting held 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013 were signed by the Chairman as a true record.
43. There has been no further information about the police being granted access to the CCTV system, outside of the opening hours of the Assembly Rooms. It is unlikely that permission will be granted and in the immediate future, the matter will not be pursued.
44. The Sexton has swapped over the bulbs for the Christmas lights. However, the new bulbs are slightly larger and heavier and Ian Earl has expressed some concern that this may make the strings across the street hang lower than normal. The Clerk has instructed that the lights must be erected to ensure that the minimum height is achieved and to prevent any possible re-occurrence of the incident with the lorry last year. This may incur an additional fee.
45. Ditch, Jawbone Lane - Cllr Collyer's father met with Chris Payne on 22<sup>nd</sup> October to advise of the location and the problems, which transpired to be blocked gullies. DCC was informed and confirmation has been received that these were cleared on 30<sup>th</sup> October and now run clear.
46. The request from the DCC Rights of Way Officer is still outstanding. The Clerk will seek assistance from Heaths and a response is still awaited. **(Action: Clerk)**.
47. The Clerk and Lengthsman met with a representative from the Community Payback Team (CPT) on 15/10/13 and arrangements have been made for the CPT to clear the twitchels over a number of Saturdays. The CPT will make all the arrangements and will remove all the waste. If the work is satisfactory, arrangements will be made to have the twitchels regularly cleared, but the Committee is advised that from 1st January 2014, the service will no longer be free, but will cost £100 per day. The latest feedback was that the CPT was unable to cut the overgrowth back as far as necessary due to the large amount of dog fouling.
48. Washpit – overgrown trees – DCC has submitted an order for a small branch to be cut back and for the property services dept to cut the basal growth. No work has yet been carried out on this tree, and a request is to be made to DCC for the work to be undertaken as a matter of urgency as visibility at the junction is hampered. **(Action: Clerk)**
49. Lime tree at the Old Burial Ground - Ian Earl met with the SDDC Tree officer on 18/10/13, and the consensus was that the tree is not damaging the wall. The Tree

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Officer has agreed to limited pruning of the lime tree, but planning permission will be required. There is a problem with the large beech tree which has a fungal growth affecting the roots. It has been suggested that a test is carried out as to the soundness of the tree at a cost of £220+VAT. The Burial Committee considered this matter and has asked the Clerk to obtain another independent view of the beech tree. This is awaited. The matter will be referred back to the Burial Committee.

50. The lights at the carpark have been repaired, along with the lights in the alleyway.
51. The bent Give Way sign at the end of the carpark has been repaired.
52. The general condition of the Old Burial Ground is of concern. This will be reported to the Burial Committee for consideration.
53. Cllr Carroll reported that she had received reports that 2 TPOs had been placed on 2 trees in the front gardens of 2 properties on Jubilee Close. The Clerk had obtained the Committee reports which recommended the granting of the TPOs, the amenity value to the area was considered to be the reason for granting the TPOs. The Parish Council has not been advised of the applications and the Clerk was informed that the Parish Council is not a consultee for TPO applications. A discussion took place about the appropriateness of the TPOs and of the process undertaken by SDDC. It was concluded that the action taken by SDDC seemed excessive, particularly as the fallen crab apples create a slip hazard for pedestrians and therefore the removal and replacement of these tree would seem to be a sensible move.  
RESOLVED to send a strong letter to SDDC expressing the Council's unhappiness about the imposition of the TPO on the Crab Apple tree.
54. One way system – Cllr Carroll enquired whether the Parish Council would hold a public meeting on the proposal for a one way system in the centre of the village. A discussion took place around the possible options/routes for a one way system. AGREED: to recommend that the idea of a one way system is not pursued. The reasons being that the identified accesses and junctions are difficult to manoeuvre; there would be access problems for HGVs visiting the Star Micronics factory on Chapel Street and there is the potential for Derby Road and Potter Street to become race tracks.
55. Fire Station – A further public meeting will be held on w/c 25<sup>th</sup> November at the Assembly Rooms. It was unanimously agreed that an application should be made to have the Fire Station listed as a Community Asset, similar to the application made relating to the public toilets and Lothian Gardens. **(Action: Clerk)**
56. Cllr Stockill reported that a section of pavement outside the Indian Restaurant has sunk and collects rain water. The Clerk will report this to the Highways Dept **(Action: Clerk).**

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57. Cllr Stockill reported that Thomas Cooke Close is very dark. It is unsure whether there is a street light or whether any existing light is obscured. The Clerk will report the matter to the Highways Dept **(Action: Clerk)**.
58. Cllr Earp reported that the jitty between Cockshut Lane and George Street is in part, very dark. The Clerk will make a request for a wall mounted light to be fixed to the wall, so as not to be too obtrusive to nearby residents. **(Action: Clerk)**.
59. A conifer is blocking a street light at Church Mews/Victoria Mews. The Clerk will make a request for the tree to be pruned. **(Action: Clerk)**.
60. Items to note/awaiting completion

SDDC has advised that the repair of the bench at Jubilee Close is to be undertaken by the developers of the estate (Wimpey).

The Clerk reported that in a letter dated 26.09.13 from DCC; instructions have been issued to trim the trees back on Robinsons Hill to a specified height.

DCC in their letter of 26.09.13, has noted the problem on the footway at Woodhouses and has submitted for works to be done to raise the length of the kerb and footway. This is to be included in the future footway budget.

The poor condition of the road surface at Nettlefold Crescent was reported to Cllr Chilton but no update has yet been received. No update has been received from Cllr Chiltern.

The complaint about the broken and loose kerb stones and brick steps at Potter Street has been forwarded to the Streetworks Centre, DCC, for attention.

Date of next meeting: to be advised at the Parish Council meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2013.

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:15pm.

Highways Committee - Cllr W Earp – Chairman